

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USNATO
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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, PROP, SOCI, RO
SUBJ: ROMANIA: THE NEUTRON BOMB IN A BROAD PERSPECTIVE

1. IN FIRST PUBLISHED COMMENTARY ON ERW (NATO: THE NEUTRON BOMB - A CONTROVERSIAL POSTPONEMENT) TO APPEAR SINCE CONSIDERABLY BEFORE PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION TO POSTPONE ITS PRODUCTION, GOR STICKS TO ITS INDIVIDUALISTIC, ALMOST NON-PARTISIAN APPROACH TO CONTROVERSIAL WEAPON.

2. WITH RESPECT TO WEAPON ITSELF, PERSPECTIVE OF ARTICLE IN WEEKLY LUMEA (ROMANIAN LANGUAGE EDITION ONLY) IS THAT
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OF DETACHED OBSERVER. BRIEF HISTORY OF WEAPON FROM 1958 TO RECENT DECISION AND CITATIONS FROM WESTERN PRESS AND ALLIANCE PERSONALITIES CRITICAL OF DECISION, SEEM DESIGNED TO MAKE POINTS THAT WESTERN ALLIES HAVE SHOWN CAUTION RATHER THAN RECKLESSNESS AND THAT, FROM POINT OF VIEW OF THOSE CONCERNED WITH NATO POSTURE, DECISION TO POSTPONE FURTHER WEAPON'S PRODUCTION IS SOURCE OF

"CONSTERNATION" AS CONSIDERABLE SACRIFICE OR EVEN
CAPITULATION.

3. MOREOVER, IN QUOTING WILLY BRANDT, WHO "HAS EXAMINED
THE SITUATION FROM A BROADER PERSPECTIVE AND APPRECIATES
THAT UNCONDITIONAL ADVOCACY OF THE NEUTRON BOMB CREATES
DISCORD AND CONFRONTATION PREJUDICIAL TO THE PROCESS
OF DENTENTE" ARTICLE ACCEPTS APPROPRIATENESS OF CONDITIONAL
NATURE OF DECISION AND ALSO, BY INFERENCE, APPROPRIATE-
NESS OF RECIPROCAL RESTRAINT. ASSERTION THAT DIMENSIONS
AND ORIGINS OF DISPUTE WITHIN NATO MUST BE ASSESSED
WITH LUCIDITY IMPLICITLY REJECTS WARSAW PACT ATTEMPTS TO
FOCUS ON ERW AS ISOLATED ISSUE, AND AUTHOR PROCEEDS TO
PLACE IT IN LARGER CONTEXT AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF "THE
ANACHRONISM OF COMPETITION IN DEADLY WEAPONS...A COURSE
FRAUGHT WITH GRAVE DANGERS." ARTICLE REITERATES ROMANIAN
POSITION WITH CEAUSESCU REMARK AT NATIONAL PRESS CLUB:
"IN GENERAL, ROMANIA ADVOCATES DISARMAMENT, IN THE FIRST
INSTANCE NUCLEAR, AND OPPOSES ANY NUCLEAR BOMBS AND;
THEREFORE, ALSO THE NEUTRON BOMB... EUROPE AND THE WORLD
HAVE NO NEED OF NEW ARMS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, BUT OF AN
END TO THEIR EXISTEANCE, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF DISARMAMENT..."

4. MISE EN SCENE OF ARTICLE WAS CAMEO OF NATO MINDEF
MEETING AT FREDERIKSHAVN, AND PIECE CARRIES ITS GENERALIZED
THEME TO CONCLUSION WITH SECOND REFERENCE TO MEETING
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"...AND NOT ONLY THIS WEAPON BUT ALSO PROGRAMS OF THE
TYPE ADDRESSED AT THE POLITICO-MILITARY CONCLAVE AT
FREDERIKSHAVN--CANNOT ADVANCE SECURITY" IN DISPARAGEMENT NOT
SO MUCH OF NATO PER SE, AS OF ALL BLOC MENTALITY IN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.
SIMONS

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